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FEMA

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Disaster News

FEMA ASSISTANCE IN NEBRASKA EXPANDED FOR SOME COUNTIES

GRAND ISLAND, NE – Today the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the expansion of the Public Assistance program for 48 counties in Nebraska. This change allows local communities to apply for funds to repair, replace or reconstruct permanent public facilities damaged by the recent ice storms. FEMA will pay 75 percent of the costs of eligible projects and state and local agencies will share the remainder.

"We are committed to a full recovery in Nebraska," Federal Coordinating Officer Michael Bolch said today in Grand Island. "Providing added funds now should make those permanent repairs a reality."

The 57 counties previously declared eligible for federal Public Assistance program categories A and B are unchanged. These categories continue to provide for the reimbursement of costs by state and local governments and eligible non-profit agencies for emergency services and eligible debris removal after the storm. Those eligible counties are: Adams, Antelope, Blaine, Boone, Brown, Buffalo, Cedar, Chase, Cheyenne, Clay, Custer, Dawson, Dixon, Dundy, Fillmore, Franklin, Frontier, Furnas, Garden, Garfield, Gosper, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, Howard, Kearney, Keith, Keya Paha, Kimball, Knox, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Madison, Merrick, Morrill, Nance, Nuckolls, Perkins, Phelps, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Red Willow, Rock, Seward, Sherman, Stanton, Valley, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, and York.

The newly added Public Assistance program categories of C through G are now available for some but not all of the previously declared counties. These new categories will provide reimbursement for the rebuilding or replacement of disaster-damaged public facilities. These facilities may include roads, public park facilities, water pumping facilities, power facilities and public buildings.

Public Assistance program categories C through G will now be added for the following counties:

Adams, Antelope, Blaine, Boone, Brown, Buffalo, Chase, Clay, Custer, Dawson, Dundy, Franklin, Frontier, Furnas, Garden, Garfield, Gosper, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, Howard, Kearney, Keith, Keya Paha, Knox, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Madison, Merrick, Nance, Nuckolls, Perkins, Phelps, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Red Willow, Rock, Sherman, Valley, Webster, Wheeler and York.

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"Assistance from our federal partners will go a long way toward helping our communities recover fully," said State Coordinating Officer Cindy Newsham. "This additional funding will make sure our state infrastructure gets back to where it needs to be."

For more information about the entire Public Assistance grant application process, please see the FEMA website. <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/process.shtm>

FEMA manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates mitigation activities, works with state and local emergency managers, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

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Editors: For more information on the Nebraska disaster recovery, visit www.fema.gov or <http://www.nema.ne.gov/>.